
By: **Delegates Montague, Rawlings, McIntosh, Doory, and Owings**
Introduced and read first time: February 9, 2001
Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **Election Law - Campaign Financing - Contribution and Transfer Limits**

3 FOR the purpose of increasing certain limits on campaign contributions; increasing
4 the limit on the transfer of funds between political committees; and generally
5 relating to the regulation of campaign financing under the Election Code.

6 BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
7 Article 33 - Election Code
8 Section 13-212(a) and 13-213(b)
9 Annotated Code of Maryland
10 (1997 Replacement Volume and 2000 Supplement)

11 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF
12 MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

13 **Article 33 - Election Code**

14 13-212.

15 (a) (1) Except as provided in §§ 13-213 and 13-214 of this subtitle, it is
16 unlawful for any individual, association, unincorporated association, corporation, or
17 any other entity either directly or indirectly, to contribute any money or thing of value
18 greater than [~~\$4,000~~] \$6,000 to any candidate or political committee or to contribute
19 money in excess of \$100 except by check in any 4-year election cycle. Contributions
20 may be made by credit card, not to exceed \$100 per transaction, to any candidate or
21 political committee under this subsection. Total contributions by a contributor under
22 this subsection shall not exceed [~~\$10,000~~] \$15,000 in any 4-year election cycle.

23 (2) Notwithstanding any other provision of this article, the limit on
24 contributions during a 4-year election cycle by the governing body for a political party
25 or local central committee shall be as follows:

26 (i) For a statewide governing body for a political party, not more
27 than \$1 for every two registered voters in the State, regardless of party affiliation, as
28 of January 1 following the preceding gubernatorial election; and

1 (ii) For the governing body of a local central committee for a
2 political party, not more than \$1 for every two registered voters in the county,
3 regardless of party affiliation, as of January 1 following the preceding gubernatorial
4 election.

5 (3) (i) The limitations set forth in paragraph (1) of this subsection and
6 § 13-213 of this subtitle shall apply to each 4-year election cycle beginning on
7 January 1 following the gubernatorial election and continuing until December 31 that
8 is 4 years later.

9 (ii) Without regard to when a contribution or transfer is expended
10 or used, the contribution or transfer shall be charged against the limitation for the
11 election cycle in which:

- 12 1. The check is written or dated; or
- 13 2. The cash or other thing of value is received.

14 13-213.

15 (b) Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, during a 4-year
16 election cycle the treasurer of a political committee or the treasurer of a candidate
17 may not directly or indirectly transfer any money greater than [~~\$6,000~~] \$9,000 to the
18 treasurer or political committee of a candidate or any other political committee.

19 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect
20 October 1, 2001.